

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06  
EUR-12 IOE-00 OIC-02 SP-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10  
HEW-04 /080 W  
-----031300 001361 /41

P R 031150Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0212

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 06258

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, PORG

SUBJECT: UNESCO: MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW  
RE SUCCESSOR TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOBES

REF: STATE 42226

1. PERMREP APPROACHED DG'M'BOW ON MARCH 2 PER INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL. DG IMPLIED THAT HE HAD FULFILLED EARLIER COMMITMENT TO FILL DDG SLOT WITH AN AMERICAN BY EXTENDING FOBES' CONTRACT TO HIS RETIREMENT (MARCH, 1978). IN VIEW OF PLANS FOR MAJOR REORGANIZATION OF SECRETARIAT, HOWEVER, M'BOW SAID THAT DDG SLOT MAY BE LEFT VACANT AFTER FOBES' RETIREMENT, AND IMPLIED THAT IT MAY BE LOST ALTOGETHER IN THE REORGANIZATION. HE RE-EMPHASIZED HIS BELIEF, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MUST BE AN AMERICAN AT THE ADG LEVEL, OR ABOVE, DEPENDING ON THE FINAL SHAPE OF THE REORGANIZATION WHICH, HE ADDED, WILL BE MADE ALONG FUNCTIONAL LINES. M'BOW INDICATED ALSO THAT IF THE DDG SLOT WERE LEFT VACANT BEFORE THE REORGANIZATION, THAT AN AMERICAN WOULD HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN AT THE ADG LEVEL. THE DG WOULD NOT BE  
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DRAWN OUT FURTHER ON THE SHAPE OF THE REORGANIZATION, AND SAID THAT IT COULD NOT BE BEGUN, IN ANY CASE, BEFORE THE PROGRAMS VOTED BY THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE WERE WELL UNDERWAY, I.E., AT LEAST NOT BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF 1978.

2. PERMREP ASKED DG WHAT TYPE OF PERSON HE ENVISAGED

WOULD BEST FILL A DDG LEVEL SLOT SO THAT THE DELEGATION COULD ASSIST IN HELPING TO FIND A SUCCESSOR. THE DG ASKED THAT HE BE ALLOWED SOME TIME FOR REFLECTION ON THIS MATTER, ADDING THAT RESPONSE WOULD BE LARGELY DETERMINED BY THE SHAPE OF THE REORGANIZATION. HE AGREED TO LET US KNOW HIS VIEWS WELL IN ADVANCE SO THAT TIME WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR RECRUITMENT.

3. WE ALSO USED OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE SEVERAL OTHER MATTERS OF CURRENT IMPORTANCE. CONCERNING CHANDLER CANDIDACY FOR CHAIRMANSHIP OF IBE, THE DG SAID THAT POSITION WAS NOT NECESSARILY RESERVED FOR ANY PARTICULAR STATE, I.E. US. OWING TO SENSITIVITY OF THIS NOMINATION, THE DG CONTINUED, HE WAS IN PROCESS OF CONSULTING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS BY LETTER, AND WOULD HAVE TO HAVE RESULTS IN TIME TO MAKE FINAL JUDGMENT BY APRIL 15. WE REMINDED M'BOW THAT WE HAD SENT HIM A DETAILED AIDE MEMOIRE STRONGLY SUPPORTING CHANDLER'S CANDIDACY.

4. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE PRIVATE WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS WHICH WILL PREPARE A PRELIMINARY DRAFT ON "RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE," M'BOW WAS NON COMMITTAL AS TO WHETHER A PRIVATE AMERICAN WOULD BE INVITED. HE EMPHASIZED THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WOULD BE INDIVIDUALS

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-----031300 001674 /41

P R 031150Z MAR 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0213  
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 06258

NESCO

WORKING FOR HIM AND SELECTED BY HIM, AND NOT REPRE-

SENTING GOVERNMENTS. M'BOW INDICATED HE HAD THE NAME OF ONE AMERICAN AND ASKED US TO MENTION, UNOFFICIALLY, OTHERS. WE MENTIONED FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ECOSOC AND GHANA, FRANKLIN H. WILLIAMS AND ALSO JOHN BUGGS, CHAIRMAN OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION, AS THE TYPE OF PERSONS WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD. M'BOW SAID HE WOULD MAKE HIS DECISION EITHER TODAY OR TOMORROW AS THE WORKING GROUP WAS DUE TO MEET BEFORE THE EXBD SESSION IN APRIL. M'BOW ADDED THAT HE WOULD CAREFULLY WORK OVER RESULTS OF THE MEETING TO TRY TO ASSURE THAT DRAFT WOULD ACHIEVE LARGEST POSSIBLE CONSENSUS BY MEMBER STATES, THOUGH CAUTIONING THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO PLEASE EVERYONE.

5. WE THEN ASKED M'BOW ABOUT HIS TRAVEL SCHEDULE FOR MARCH. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE ATTENDING THE CASTARAB IN KUWAIT SET FOR MARCH 27 AND THEN WOULD GO TO ASWAN ON THE WEEK OF MARCH 28 TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR PRESERVATION OF PHILAE. HE WAS NOT CERTAIN EXACTLY WHAT DATES HE WOULD BE IN ASWAN, BUT SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY BE AWAY FROM PARIS  
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THE ENTIRE WEEK OF MARCH 28 TO APRIL 2. HE WILL RETURN TO PARIS TO HOST THE ACC MEETING CONVENING AT UNESCO ON APRIL 4. M'BOW SAID THE HEADS OF ALL THE MAJOR UN AGENCIES WILL ATTEND AND WALDHEIM WILL PRESIDE.

6. COMMENT: IT WAS CLEAR THAT M'BOW WAS PLAYING IT CAGEY INsofar AS REPLACEMENT OF FOBES BY AN AMERICAN. HE DID FIRMLY COMMIT HIMSELF TO HAVE AN AMERICAN IN ONE OF THE TOP SPOTS. HE MAY INDEED NOT YET HAVE HIS REORGANIZATION PLANS CLEARLY IN MIND, OR HE MAY BE KEEPING HIS CARDS CLOSE UNTIL HE SEES HOW OUR PAYMENT COMES OUT, OR BOTH. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO BEGIN TO THINK OF CANDIDATES FOR EITHER THE DDG JOB OR ONE OF THE ADGS EVEN THOUGH WE LACK SPECIFIC DETAILS.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PORG, UNESCO, (M'BOW, AMADOU MAHTAR)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009